

MINUTES OF 22 SEPTEMBER 2007 BUSINESS MEETING

Navy Nuclear Weapons Association business meeting was held at The Quality Hotel & Suites, Niagara Falls, New York. The meeting was called to order at 0900 with all Board Members present except Mike Snyder, and attended by 50 members in good standing.

The President asked for all present to stand for the opening prayer by Chaplain Lonnie Cucinitti followed by the pledge of allegiance to the American Flag. All present remained standing as Lonnie Cucinitti conducted the 2-Bell ceremony to honor our shipmates who transferred to the Supreme Commander's Staff: CWO3 Robert (Bob) Baynes, GMT1 Robert Landon, CWO4 Jack McCarron, GMTCS Ray Steele, GMTCM Edward J. Pearson, GMT1 John (Jack) Schimming, GMTC John (Jack) Swartz and CWO3 Donald (Joe) Zink.

The President called for introduction of new members: Ed Daniels and Bill Eck.

The President called for the minutes of last year's general membership meeting to be read.

The minutes of the 2006 business meeting were read by the Secretary. The Secretary had no additional information to report.

The President entertained a motion to accept the minutes as read. A motion was made, seconded and vote carried to accept the minutes as read.

The President called for the Treasurer's Report.

a. The Treasurer passed out copies of the financial report to the membership. The Treasurer stated that there were outstanding bills to pay for this year's reunion (approximately \$2200.00).

b. The President asked for a motion to pay all outstanding bills. A motion was made, seconded and approved to pay all outstanding bills.

The President reported on the 2007 Association accomplishments as follows:

1. The SOP/PDL is a working document, assembled by the Board of Directors over the past couple of years. It is in its final approval stage and the Vice-President will be the point of contact for the control and management of this document. This document is approximately 90% complete.

Next year I hope to have it on the website where everyone can read it.

2. Mike Snyder is continuing to develop a listing of all individuals who worked in the Navy Nuclear Weapons Program (Navy, Marines and Civilians). This is a living document and growing all the time. However, Mike still needs input from the membership to keep this growing process going.
3. We have reviewed the By-Laws and have developed a proposed change which was distributed to the membership in the June 2007 Bulletin. You will be voting on the proposed change later in the meeting.
4. We have procured NNWA Logo Belt Buckles and are now available for purchase from Lou Rivera. Along that same line, Frank Kelly has looked into T-shirt/Polo shirts and has set up a procurement system with a distributor. I will let Frank fill you in on how it will work in his report.
5. We have started the collection of photos for photo roster that the Board has approved. Photos of you and your spouse/significant other should be sent to Dave Cobb, our Secretary. We need each member's permission to put the photos in the planned albums.
6. The NNWA reunion-planning guide has undergone its annual review, and changes incorporated.
7. Our membership drive continues and this past year we added 26 new members.

The President then asked each board member to give their report:

a. Vice-President.

1. The VP is responsible for what is stocked in the Hospitality Room. This is part of the reunion planning guide and is adjusted after each reunion according to what was used.
2. Unidentified pictures on table need to be picked up.
3. The VP announced he was not going to run for the board this year.
4. The VP thanked Ray and his wife for a great reunion.

b. Secretary Dave Cobb:

1. Pictures for the proposed NNWA albums. We have advertised in the last 2 newsletters, and so far have only received three. Get the word out to all non-attending members to send pictures if they want to be included in the albums.

2. Try to talk to people you know who are not currently members who were in the program and get them to join the NNWA. Also try to encourage people to attend reunions.
3. Any old Navy Nuclear Weapons related material that you may be thinking of discarding, please send it to Mike.

c. Service Officer Chuck Weber:

1. The National Defense Authorization Act is currently held up in the Senate. Hanging in the balance are many items relating to retirees, such as the SBP/DIC Offset (Widow's Tax)
2. Also awaiting resolution is the 30 year fully paid up SBP inequity for those who retired between 1972 and 1978. They will currently pay up to 34% more for SBP.
3. Further held up in the NDAA are a variety of entitlement and inequity corrections for CRDP and CRSC. It is also proposed to dissolve the 10 year phase in plan.
4. 2008 COLA currently looks to be between 2.3% and 2.5%. This will apply to military retired pay, social security and VA compensation.
5. A Senate bill was passed clarifying Title 4, Chapter 1 of the US Code. While never prohibited, it was unclear whether veterans not in uniform could salute the flag. The bill was unanimously passed allowing veterans to salute the flag.
6. Protect your identity and check your credit record at least once a year. Last year there was a huge VA data breach releasing personal info on millions of veterans. This year there was a Tricare data breach involving 867,000 service member records and another one at TSA. Go to www.annualreport.com for a copy of your credit report.
7. Tricare has a new, more user friendly website – www.tricare.mil.

d. Storekeeper' Report:

1. Against sales of \$540.00 we had expenses of \$80.00 leaving us with a net of \$450.00.
2. We had sales of \$723.00 at the reunion, with no expenses.

e. Webmaster's Report.

1. Pirate day is a real day; I did not make it up.
2. As of yesterday, we have had over 71,000 hits on our website.
3. The 'Locator' and 'Help' sections of the website are not being used as much as I would like.
4. Within the next few weeks we are going to combine the memorial pages.
5. Photographer will be here tonight.

d. The Historian's Report (Read by the VP- Bill Grizzard).

Bill first asked for a showing of hands as to who knows what spalling and exudate is. A large portion of those present raised their hands. Then he read Mike's input:

1. First let me apologize for not providing you with a first class memorabilia display to pique your interest, initiate conversation, and bring back old memories. I especially wanted to show Don Micco what we've done with the material he gathered over the years and all the new items so freely donated by the membership, past and present. The model display, mostly from Don's own hands, is particularly impressive and I'm sorry it isn't here for all to see.
2. The member's response to my appeal for the names of Navy Nuclear Weapons Program participants as been rewarding. I receive something by snail-mail or e-mail almost weekly. Folks have sent cruise books and copies of the W Division pages, ships company photos, group orders to schools, personal photos, and the like. As I went through the collection looking for items to send to this reunion I was impressed by the numbers of photos and names of men we have accumulated. We're doing fairly well in amassing the list of program participants, but I beg for continued contributions. In my mind I can list, perhaps, fifty to a hundred people I knew while active in nuclear weapons and I bet most everyone can do the same thing. Please continue to send copies of W Division photos with names and ranks.

Send copies of orders with those eight or ten names that went to NWTC PAC or LANT for school while you were in the shipyards. Send me lists of names from your memories! No document can reproduce who and what you know. The NNWA intends to gather names from whatever sources are available to identify

as many as possible who were our shipmates and comrades in arms in the Navy Nuclear Weapons Program. Please help in this endeavor.

3. A letter from Don Boyer, one of our shipmates from Hawaii was read. Don invites any NNWA member who has historical information on NAD Waikele to submit information to Don Boyer. His address is:

Don Boyer

67-476B Haona Street

Waialua, HI 96791

Phone: 808-228-9042

Email: boyerdon@hawaii1.com

Some of the items I sent this year are collections of personal accounts of experiences and personal collections of records, orders and photos. I started years ago writing about my own experiences in the special weapons program to answer my kids question 'What did you do in the Navy, Daddy', because like all of you, I didn't talk about my work in the depots, the magazines and the ships. Let me tell you that it is easy and enjoyable experience that grows with the effort. I ask and challenge all of you to get your memories on paper. You'll enjoy it, your kids and grandkids will thank you for it and the NNWA collection will be enhanced by one more personal recounting of his contribution to holding the fort during the Cold War.

And, one last item....We received a significant contribution from a signature collector named Paul Roales. Paul is not a member of the NNWA, but thought we might enjoy knowing about Lt. Donald Lindberg, USN whose records he bought over the internet. Briefly, Lt. Lindberg graduated from the Naval Academy in 1943 and spent the war in destroyers. He was ordered to the Armed Forces Special Weapons Program (AFSWP) in 1948 and remained there until 1951. Mr. Roales sent us copies of orders, records and documents that detail some very interesting aspects of the nuclear weapons program that might be unknown to many of us. Primary among these is proof that there was such a thing as a 'Q' Clearance, long a debated subject among the NNWA membership. I invite you to view Lt. Lindberg's memorabilia on our website at navynucweps.com. Go to the history section, then arrow down to Lt. Donald S. Lindberg.

Start writing sailors. Everyone will be better for it.

I truly wish I were there with all you Keepers of the Dragon.

Mike

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

The President thanked Ray and Mary Margeson and all who helped for this outstanding reunion.

NEW BUSINESS

As the first order of new business the President announced that 5 positions were open on the board and up for election by the Membership. He informed the Membership that, in accordance with the By-Laws, the following Officer positions were also up for election by the new Board during the Board Meeting to follow the general meeting: Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Webmaster and Historian. He then turned the gavel over to the Nominations and Elections Chairman Chuck Weber to conduct appropriate nominations and elections.

Chuck provided an overview of the responsibilities of being a Board member, followed by nomination and voting procedures. The first position up for election was for Vice-President. Bill Grizzard indicated he did not wish to be considered this year. Larry Sneide was nominated and seconded. He informed the membership that Dave Cobb, Frank Kelly, Ray Margeson agreed to remain on the board if reelected, and strongly recommended their reelection. The fifth position was the Historian. Mike Snyder was not present, but submitted his willingness to serve by signed letter. Three calls were made for nominations for each of the five open board member positions. Five separate nominees accepted. They were: Larry Sneide, David Cobb, Frank Kelly, Ray Margeson and Mike Snyder. These 5 nominees accepted. Chairman Weber requested a motion from the floor stipulating the Secretary cast a ballot in favor of each nominee representing the unanimous consent of the Membership. Motion was made, seconded and passed unanimously.

The next order of business was to vote on the by-laws amendment that was published in the June newsletter. Chuck Weber read the proposed by-laws changes to the membership. Chuck informed the membership that a 2/3 majority of members present were required to approve changes to the by-laws.

2007 By-Laws Amendment Notice

In accordance with NNWA By-Laws Article VII, the Board of Directors provides the following required notice for amendment of Bylaws:

Current Provision

ARTICLE VIII

SECTION 3. EX-OFFICIO. The Immediate Past President shall be an ex-officio member of the Board. This member shall be entitled to participate in the deliberations of the Board, but shall have no vote, unless that individual shall otherwise be serving an elected term on the Board.

Proposed Amendment

Proposed Amendment as follows:

ARTICLE VIII

SECTION 3. EX-OFFICIO. The Immediate Past President shall be an ex-officio, non-voting member of the Board of Directors for one year following his/her term as President and may advise the incumbent President of relevant matters spanning their respective terms of office. This member shall be entitled to participate in the deliberations of the Board without a vote unless that individual shall otherwise be serving an elected term on the Board.

Purposes of the Amendment

To clarify that the purpose of the ex-officio position is to provide continuity in information between Presidents.

To limit the position to one year.

To remove redundancy in the event that the IPP is elected to another Board Position.

Submitted for the Board of Directors,

The change was called for a vote and was approved without dissent. The new Article VIII is listed above and will be included in the NNWA Bylaws.

The President announced the 24th (2008) NNWA Reunion will be in the Western Region, at Bremerton Washington, tentatively scheduled for Sept 17th thru 20th 2008. John Gray will be the host. More information will be available in the January news letter.

The 25th (2009) Reunion will be in the Central Region. The President announced that Dallas Texas will be the site of the 2009 reunion. Lonnie Cucinitti has agreed to host that reunion.

The President opened the floor for suggestions for the 26thth reunion, which will be in the eastern region. Nashville was suggested. The Georgia/South Carolina area , Lancaster, PA, and Charleston was also suggested. There were no other locations suggested.

The Navy Wall in Washington was talked about as to buying a position to place our NNWA logo dedicated to all who server in the Navy Nuclear Weapons Program. Cost for a 3 ½ by 5 inch plaque would be approximately \$3000.00. The President indicated he would put this before the board for consideration and report back to the membership.

There being no further New Business, the President called for the closing prayer and adjourned the meeting at 10:30

David L. Cobb

Secretary